

Remarks

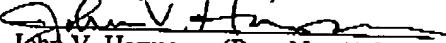
The Official Action dated February 14, 2006 has been carefully considered. Consideration of the changes and remarks presented herein and reconsideration of the rejections are respectfully requested. Claims 1-31 remain in the present application. Claims 1 and 16 have been amended for clarification of language in the claims. These amendments are made according to the prior April 20 and May 3 phone conversations with the Examiner, and entry is therefore believed to be in order and is respectfully requested.

Claims 1, 10, 14, 16, 25, and 29-31 were rejected under 35 USC 103(a) over Carrigan in view of Conta and Ishinaga, and the remaining claims were rejected over these three references in further view of Tanaka, Aswell and Stanley Wolf.

Applicants are appreciative for the phone discussions permitted by the Examiner on April 20, 2006 and May 3, 2006 in which rejected claims 1 and 16 and the amendments herein were discussed. (These amendments were faxed to the examiner in draft form on April 21, 2006 and are formally made herein). Applicants are appreciative for the indication by the Examiner that the claims are allowable. It is therefore respectfully requested that the rejections be reconsidered and withdrawn.

Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance, and that there is no teaching or suggestion in the cited references to combine their teachings to arrive at the respective claims for the reasons previously presented. It is believed that the above represents a complete response to the rejections. Reconsideration and an early allowance are requested.

Respectfully submitted,

  
John V. Harmeyer (Reg. No. 41,815)  
DINSMORE & SHOHL LLP  
1900 Chemed Center, 255 East Fifth Street  
Cincinnati, Ohio 45202  
(513) 977-8649